Emphasis or Strengthening the Technological base of Indian Industries.

2069. DR. ASHOK MITRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review the results of the various official schemes launched for strengthening the technological base of Indian industries ;

(b) the nature of measure under contemplation to persuade the private industrial sector to increase its involvement in research and development activities ; and

(c) whether a legal stipulation of allocating a minimum proportion of total turnover by each corporate unit is being considered as an essential component of such measure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Review mechanisms to assess the results of the schemes launched for strengthening the technological base of Indian industries are already in built in the schemes.

(b) Government have evolved fiscal incentives and other support measures to encourage industry to increase its investment in research and development activity, the most recent one being a 125% weighted income tax deduction for sponsored research in approved national laboratories.

(c) The matter is being examined.

Agreement with Japan on Research Projects

2070. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI ; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with Japan to take up joint research projects in key areas ; and

(b) if so, the areas identified in this regard, so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) ; (a) Yes, Sir. An Agreement on cooperation in the field of Science and Technology between India and Japan was signed on November 29, 1985.

(b) The areas identified for cooperation under this agreement include :—

— Weather prediction and Monsoon Research

— Tissue Culture

— Research on Standards

— Recycling Tecnologies

— Biomass reserach and Utilisation

— Assessment technology for Air and Water pollution

— Materials Research

Polio Vaccine

2071. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the expenditure incurred so far in re-producing the Polio Vaccine under the Indo-French Project and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(b) the target period for producing the Vaccine ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) The Indian Vaccines Corporation Limited (IVCOL) was incorporated under Joint Venture Company during March 1989 to manufacture viral vaccines with Franch assistance. It has been promoted by the Department of Biotechnology (Governmtnt of India), Indian Petrechemical Corporation Limited (IPCL)

and Pasteur Mereiux Serums & Vaccines (PMSV). The civil construction of the plant building at the project site in Gurgaon has been completed to the extent of 42% and scientific and administrative personnel have been recruited. The first batch of 5 scientists have undergone comprehensive training in vaccine production and other technologies at PMSV, Lyon, France. So far the expenditure incurred is about Rs. 22.65 crores.

The unit was initially to produce Measles vaccine (20 million doses), Vero Cell based inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) (10 million doses), Rabies vaccine (2 million doses), and quadruple vaccine (DPTP) (40 million doses. In 1991-92, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, based on the recommendations of WHO, has recommended to use only Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) for polio control in India. This has necessitated a review of the "product mix". It was further considered to take up indigenous production of Vero Cell based OPV instead of injectable polio Vaccine and Quadruple vaccine. A joint Indo-franch committee has been set up to redefine the IVCOL project based on new product mix. The Committee has submitted its report in Feb. 1993. At present the terms and conditions for early implementation of the project for indigenous production of Vero based OPV, rabies and measures Vaccines in IVCOL are under finalisation by the three promoters:

Population Summit in Delhi

2072. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government are aware of the population sommit held recently in Delhi ;

(b) if so, what were the observations made in the Summit ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At the conclusion of the Summit, a consensus statement was arrived at. Concern was expressed about the unpercedent population growth in the world and the consequent threat to the global ecosystem in its varied forms, and the ill effects of the excessive consumption of the developed world and its influence on the ecosystem. Noting that population control cannot be viewed and acheived in isolation from the overall development, attention was drawn to the common goal to improve the quality of life for all, both now and succeeding generations, including social, economic and personal well being while preserving the ability to live harmoniously in a protected environment

Attempt should be made to achive zero population growth within the lifetime of our children. These goals are achieveable given time, political will, intelligent use of science and technology, and human ingenuity. The measures needed for this task include equal opportunities for men and women, universal access to convenient family planing and health service, encouragement of voluntary approaches to family planning, appropriate governmental policies recognising longer term environmental responsibilities the industrialised world to assist the developing world in combating global and local environmental problems, and collective actions by all governments.

The Academies are planning to bring the Sumit Statement to the notice of the Governments of their respective countries and to the UN International Conference on Population and Development scheduled to take place in 1994. The Government of India has been concerned about the population problem in the country and world look at the recommendations to see what further action is needed.